

## COUNCIL WORK SESSION, JANUARY 26, 2010

The work session of the Council of the Town of Altavista was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 510 Seventh Street on January 26, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

1. Mayor Burgess called the meeting to order and presided.

### Council members

present: Mr. J.R. Burgess  
Mr. Ronald Coleman  
Mrs. Beverley Dalton  
Mr. Bill Ferguson  
Mr. Michael Mattox  
Mrs. Rayetta Webb

### Council members

absent: Mr. Jay Higginbotham

### Planning Commission

members present: Mrs. Audrey Powell  
Mr. Jerry Barbee, Chairman

### Also present:

Mr. J. Waverly Coggsdale, III, Town Manager  
Mr. Dan Witt, Assistant to Town Manager  
Mrs. Joyce Henderson, Town Resident

## Review of the Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Witt addressed Council stating the mission of the Planning Commission was to look back at what has been accomplished and what we want to accomplish in the next 20 years; this is the manner the prologue was written. The Comprehensive Plan was also written in a way to be used as a marketing tool.

Council reviewed each chapter of the plan.

Mr. Coggsdale questioned if when discussing water resources, if the springs should be included although they are not located within the Town they are a source for the Town.

In reference to the Public Transportation Feasibility Study, Mr. Mattox questioned if this should be changed to state public transportation is being implemented.

Mr. Coggsdale suggested marking this as “making application for funding”.

Mrs. Dalton stated with the Comprehensive Plan being used as a marketing tool, stating you want to reduce air pollution is a good thing.

Mr. Barbee stated that is the intent, not to support any individual business or industry.

Mr. Coggsdale suggested removing the Power Plant to generalize the statement.

Mrs. Webb questioned if each business would be nitpicked.

Mr. Coggsdale suggested each item that is brought up be looked at by staff and they in turn would provide recommendations.

Mr. Coleman questioned what Mr. Witt told the group at the first meeting when describing a comprehensive plan.

Mr. Witt stated he told them it was a guiding document for both Council and staff for the future decisions they would be making.

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Mr. Barbee mentioned this is a legally required document but not a legally binding document.

Mr. Mattox asked that continued financial support of the Altavista On Track be removed.

Mr. Coleman mentioned the goal of Altavista On Track is to be self-sustaining.

Mr. Coggsdale suggested adding Campbell County to the Community and Regional Partnerships section.

Mr. Coggsdale questioned if funding in Chapter 5 should be changed. Council agreed to use the wording “supporting”. Mr. Coggsdale stated there are a lot of things the Town can support but not fund.

Mr. Coggsdale mentioned Campbell County’s Early College Program and recommended information on that be inserted in the Comprehensive Plan.

After much discussion, Council decided to change the wording on the Action Plan for the objective of continuing to meet community water supply and wastewater treatment needs.

Council agreed to expand the recreational objective to include community opportunities.

Mrs. Webb looked for anything with demographics to the older population. Mrs. Webb felt Altavista should be supportive of senior aging and the Comprehensive Plan should spell out what we might have available.

Mr. Mattox stated although he agreed with this, the baby boomers will be gone by 2030 and did not feel a retirement community was a good idea.

Mrs. Webb felt Altavista was in a prime position to market itself to the aging American.

Mr. Ferguson stated Council needs to consider the families that have moved to Lynchburg due to the lack of a retirement community here.

Mrs. Powell offered this subject called for a lot of discussion in their committee. Mrs. Powell stated this was not mentioned in the plan because of limited property in the Town in which to build. It was mentioned in a work shop, but did not want to actively record that type of housing if other housing was available.

Mr. Barbee mentioned the Plan Unit Development (PUD) piece to this had the retirement community as an element.

Mr. Coggsdale questioned if any thought was given to the redevelopment of older neighborhoods.

Mr. Witt stated Habitat for Humanity is doing this type of thing by removing old houses and replacing with newly built homes.

Mrs. Dalton stated there is a need in the community for affordable housing.

Mr. Coggsdale suggested allowing staff to review.

Mr. Mattox stated the Section 8 landlords often just meet the minimum requirements and he would like for the Town to have Section 8 housing but doesn’t want the landlords to allow this housing to deteriorate to the point it destroys a neighborhood. Mr. Mattox called for a higher bar with Section 8 housing.

Mr. Witt mentioned if a tenant has a complaint, Campbell County Building Inspections is required to come out and inspect the rental property.

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Mrs. Henderson told Council she felt the Town would have more control with Section 8 housing than the Habitat Housing. If there is a bad tenant, they can be evicted; someone in a Habitat House cannot be evicted.

Mr. Mattox mentioned he has received information from the Police Department of a large number of calls for service from the Habitat houses.

Mr. Coleman stated Habitat has been able to purchase some blighted properties and replace with new housing improving the appearance of the community and he does not want to wipe Habitat out.

Mr. Witt mentioned to Council the Public Transit Grant was submitted January 26, 2010.

Mrs. Webb stated the Town was in a prime position to be the hub of the areas' Public Transit due to the proximity of the Town to the counties; Bedford, Campbell, and Pittsylvania.

Mr. Coggsdale suggested adding 'evaluate the feasibility of expanding to a regional hub' to the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Witt mentioned over the years the zoning map has also been the Future Land Use Map and he has had to determine if the zoning is what it is currently or what it should be in the future. Mr. Witt asked Council to review the Future Land Use Map to make sure that this is what they want. The zoning map will be updated based on the Future Land Use Map.

Mr. Mattox requested a punch list detailing what each organization should be doing and in what order.

Mayor Burgess asked if there was anything else to bring before Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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J. R. Burgess, Mayor

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W. Morgan Allen, Jr., Clerk